

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (New): Coated sodium percarbonate particles comprising a sodium percarbonate core surrounded by at least one coating layer comprising at least one inorganic coating material, the coated particles having a content of available oxygen of at least 3 % by weight, and being fizzy to such an extent that 2 g of the coated particles dissolved in 50 ml of water at 20°C generate more than 0.4 ml of gas after 2 min.

Claim 13 (New): The coated sodium percarbonate particles according to claim 12, being fizzy to such an extent that 2 g of the coated particles dissolved in 50 ml of water at 20°C generate at least 1 ml of gas after 2 min.

Claim 14 (New): The coated sodium percarbonate particles according to claim 12, being fizzy to such an extent that 1 g of the coated particles dissolved in 50 ml of water at 20°C generates at least 0.4 ml of gas after 2 min.

Claim 15 (New): The coated sodium percarbonate particles according to claim 12, having a content of available oxygen of at least 10 % by weight.

Claim 16 (New): The coated sodium percarbonate particles according to claim 12, wherein the inorganic coating material is selected from the group consisting of sodium silicate, sodium borate, boric acid, sodium carbonate, sodium sulfate, magnesium sulfate and mixtures thereof.

Claim 17 (New): A process for the preparation of the coated sodium percarbonate particles of claim 12, comprising a first step in which the sodium percarbonate core particles are prepared, at least one subsequent coating step in which the core particles are coated with the coating material, and a heat treatment carried out between the first step and the subsequent step, or during the subsequent step, or after the subsequent step, the heat treatment being carried out by heating the particles up to an end temperature T and maintaining the particles during a period t at the end temperature T, T (expressed in °C) and t (expressed in min) corresponding to the formula:

$$T \geq 0.000567 t^2 - 0.24 t + 114.490 \text{ when } T \text{ is up to } 110^{\circ}\text{C}, \text{ and}$$

$$T \geq -2 t + 150 \text{ when } T \text{ is above } 110^{\circ}\text{C}.$$

Claim 18 (New): The process according to claim 17, in which the end temperature T of the heat treatment ranges from 80 to 140°C.

Claim 19 (New): The process according to claim 17, in which the period t of the heat treatment ranges from 5 min to 4 h.

Claim 20 (New): The process according to claim 17, wherein the heat treatment is carried out in a fluid bed reactor in which the particles are fluidized by an upward flow of hot air.

Claim 21 (New): A process of preparing a detergent composition with active bleach, comprising adding the coated sodium percarbonate particles of claim 12, as active bleach constituent, in a detergent composition.

Claim 22 (New): Detergent compositions comprising the coated sodium percarbonate particles of claim 12 as active bleach constituent.